National Council of Scientology Ministers

2125 S Street N.W. Washington D.C. 20008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
REV. HUGH WILHERE (202) 797-9849

CIA AGENT IN WHITE HOUSE NAMED

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENTOLOGY MINISTERS TODAY CALLED FOR THE IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF DR. THEODORE MARRS, PRESIDENT FORD'S LIASON FOR RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS. IN A STRONGLY WORDED LETTER TO PRESIDENT FORD, COUNCIL PRESIDENT REV. ARTHUR MAREN STATED THAT INFORMATION RECENTLY PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL REVEALED THAT MARRS HAS A 30 YEAR HISTORY OF ACTIVITY WITHIN THE CIA AND OTHER AGENCIES WITHIN THE GOVERNMENTAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY. 'DR. MARRS' CLOSE ASSOCIATION AND TIES WITH GOVERNMENT INTELLIGENCE APPARATUS MAY HAVE BEEN THE MOTIVATING FACTOR BEHIND MARRS' RECENT FAILURE TO PASS ON OUR PETITION ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT FORD REQUESTING HAS AID IN OPENING SECRET FILES ON CHURCHES BEING KEPT BY VARIOUS GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES', MAREN SAID.

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' INFORMATION ABOUT DR. MARRS' CIA ASSOCIATION, BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION ON THE HEELS OF RECENT ALLEGATIONS OF WHITE HOUSE INFILTRATION BY CIA, IS OF EXTREME CONCERN TO US AND THE ENTIRE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY REGARDLESS OF WHETHER HIS BACKGROUND IS KNOWN TO THE WHITE HOUSE OR NOT', STATED REV. MAREN. 'EARLY IN HIS CAREER MARRS WAS WITH THE OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES (OSS), THE FORERUNNER OF CIA WHICH ENGAGED IN MILITARY ESPIONAGE DURING WORLD WAR II. LATER HE WORKED FOR THE CIA. SUBSEQUENTLY, MARRS WAS PART OF THE UNIT WHICH TRAINED INVASION FORCES FOR THE BAY OF PIGS. WE CONSIDER HIS EXTENSIVE INVOLVEMENT IN INTELLIGENCE WORK TO BE A HIGHLY UNUSUAL AND INCOMPATIBLE BACKGROUND FOR A MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR SERVING THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT'.

THE PETITION TO PRESIDENT FORD WAS ORIGINALLY DELIVERED BY REV. MAREN TO DR. MARRS FOR RELAY DURING A WHITE HOUSE MEETING IN FEBRUARY OF THIS YEAR. AFTER WAITING FOR TWO MONTHS, WITHOUT ANY RESPONSE WHATSOEVER, THE COUNCIL AGAIN MET WITH DR. MARRS AND PRESENTED HIM WITH DOCUMENTED EVIDENCE THAT FALSE AND MALICIOUS INFORMATION ON THE CHURCH EXISTED IN VARIOUS GOVERNMENTAL FILES, AGAIN URGING EXECUTIVE ACTION. AMONG THE DOCUMENTS WAS A 1969 LABOR DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM DRAWN FROM INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY THE IRS CHARGING THAT THE SCIENTOLOGISTS PARTICIPATED IN GROUP LSD SESSIONS AND SUBJECTED INITIATES TO SHOCK TREATMENT AND THAT PARENTS OBJECTING TO THEIR CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE CHURCH ' HAD BEEN SHOT, BUT NOT KILLED, BY UNKNOWN PERSONS. ' LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS HAVE SINCE APOLOGIZED FOR THE DOCUMENT.

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MARRS, HOWEVER, DID NOT RELAY TO THE PRESIDENT EITHER THE COUNCIL'S PETITION ASKING FOR PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE IN CORRECTING THE FALSE REPORTS OR ITS EVIDENCE OF ABUSIVE INTELLIGENCE PRACTICES. HE DID NOT RESPOND TO THE COUNCIL UNTIL JUNE 5TH WHEN IN A LETTER TO REV. MAREN, HE STATED THAT ' THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT PERTAINS TO ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT RECORDS, NOT TO THE CORRECTION OF SUCH RECORDS' AND SUGGESTED THAT THE CHURCH COUNCIL RESUBMIT ITS REQUEST TO THE VARIOUS AGENCIES UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

THE AGRESSIVE CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY LAST WEEK FILED SUIT AGAINST THE CIA FOR DISCOVERY OF ITS FILES ON THE CHURCH FOLLOWING THE CIA'S REFUSAL TO TURN OVER THE FILES UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT. THE CIA HAD ADMITTED IN A LETTER TO THE CHURCH'S ATTORNEYS THAT THE AGENCY'S FILES ' CONTAIN COMMUNICATION FROM AND TO CERTAIN FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER AGENCIES OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT' BUT REFUSED TO RELEASE THEM TO THE SCIENTOLOGISTS.

TEXT OF LETTER SENT TO PRESIDENT FROM NATIONAL CHURCH OFFICES IN LOS ANGELES ON JULY 10, 1975.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,

IN FEBRUARY OF THIS YEAR, DURING A MEETING WITH OUR LIAISON TO RELIGIONS, DR. THEODORE MARRS, THE COUNCIL OF SCIENTOLOGY MINISTERS PRESENTED A PETITION ADDRESSED TO YOU AND ASKED THAT IT BE RELAYED. THE PETITION, A COPY OF WHICH IS ENCLOSED, EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN OVER THE ABUSIVE PRACTICE OF VARIOUS FEDERAL AGENCIES OF COLLECTING AND DISTRIBUTING FLASE AND INACCURATE INFORMATION ON RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS. THE PETITION REQUESTED THAT YOU ORDER THOSE AGENCIES TO MAKE THEIR FILES ON RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST AND TO EXPUNGE FROM THOSE FILES AND MATERIALS FOUND TO BE FALSE OR DEFAMATORY.

DR. MARRS RESPONSE WAS CLEARLY UNSATISFACTORY. IN SPITE OF HIS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE MATTER AND HIS PROMISE TO GIVE IT DESERVED ATTENTION, NO INDICATION WAS RECEIVED FROM HIM THAT ANY ACTION WHATSOEVER WAS BEING TAKEN ON THE MATTER, OR EVEN THAT THE PETITION HAD BEEN FORWARDED TO YOU.

FOLLOWING A THREE MONTH WAIT, THE COUNCIL SECURED ANOTHER APPOINTMENT WITH DR. MARRS AND AGAIN URGED HIM TO BRING THE MATTER TO YOUR ATTENTION. THE REQUEST WAS SUPPORTED BY OUR PRESENTATION OF DOCUMENTS SHOWING THE EXISTENCE IN GOVERNEMENT FILES OF MALICIOUS FALSE REPORTS ON THE CHURCH. FOR EXAMPLE, A LABOR DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM, FOR WHICH OFFICIALS OF THAT AGENCY HAVE SINCE APOLOGIZED, ACCUSED THE CHURCH OF HOLDING GROUPS LSD SESSIONS, ADMINISTERING SHOCK TREATMENT TO INITIATES, AND CLAIMED THAT PARENTS OBJECTING TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE CHURCH BY THEIR CHILDREN HAD BEEN ' SHOT BUT NOT KILLED, BY UNKNOWN PERSONS'. THE MEMORANDUM ACKNOWLEDGED THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE AS SOURCE OF THE INFORMATION.

TWO WEEKS LATER DR. MARRS RESPONDED BY LETTER. UNFORTUANTELY THERE WAS STILL NO CONFIRMATION THAT HE HAD PASSED THE PETITION TO YOU AS REQUESTED. INSTEAD, EVEN THOUGH HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ' THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT PERTAINS TO ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT RECORD, NOT TO THE CORRECTION OF SUCH RECORDS', HE REFERED US BACK TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES OF THE ACT, FROM WHICH, AS HE WAS WELL AWARE, WE WERE ALREADY RECEIVING PAINFULLY INADEQUATE RESULTS.

IN SUMMARY, THROUGH FOUR MONTHS OF INTERCOURSE WITH DR. MARRS, HE FAILED TO RENDER THE SLIGHTEST SERVICE , INCLUDING EVEN THE MINIMAL COURTESY OF FORWARDING THE PETITION.

INFORMATION RECENTLY PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL HAS PROVIDED A POSSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR DR. MARRS'S RETICENCE TO ASSIST IN THIS MATTER AND SUGGEST THAT, IN DIAMETRIC CONTRAST TO HIS DUTY TO ACT AS A LIAISON BETWEEN YOUR OFFICE THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY, HE MAY HAVE KNOWINGLY ACTED AS A BARRIER BETWEN OUR RESPECTIVE OFFICES.

INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE COUNCIL REVEALS THAT DR. MARRS HAS A THIRTY YEAR HISTORY OF ACTIVITY WITHIN THE GOVERNMENTAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY DATING BACK TO SERVICE WITH THE OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES. HE HAS SINCE BEEN AN ACTIVE AGENT OF THE CIA, INCLUDING PARTICIPATION IN THE TRAINING OF INVASION FORCES FOR THE BAY OF PIGS. DR. MARRS ASSOCIATION AND TIES WITH GOVERNMENTAL INTELLIGENCE APPARATUS MAY HAVE BEEN THE MOTIVATING FACTOR BEHIND HIS FAILURE TO RELAY OUR REQUEST TO HAVE THEIR FILES ON RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS OPENED.

IN ANY EVENT, WE CONSIDER HIS EXTENSIVE INVOLVEMENT IN INTELLIGENCE WORK TO BE A HIGHLY UNUSUAL AND INCOMPATIBLE BACKGROUND FOR A MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR SERVING THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT. YOUR LIAISON FOR RELIGIOUS MATTERS IS A POSITION OF TRUST AND OF GREAT POTENTIAL IMPORTANCE TO AMERICA. THIS COUNTRY HAS DRAWN ITS STENGHT IN NO SMALL PART FROM ITS RELIGIOUS HERITAGE. IN THESE TROUBLED TIMES THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY IS AS VITAL AS EVER AND IT FOLLOWS THAT YOUR LIAISON SHOULD BE AN INDIVIDUAL OF PURPOSE AND INTEGRITY WHO CAN GAIN ITS TRUST AND SUPPORT.

IN REGARD TO THE ABOVE, WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT IMMEDIATE ATTENTION BE GIVEN TO OUR REQUEST FOR HIS REMOVAL FROM POST. AND AT THE SAME TIME, JUST ATTENTION BE GIVEN TO OUR ORIGINAL PETITION WHICH PERS AFFIRMATIVE ANSWER.

SINCERELY,

REV. ARTHUR J. MAHEN

Persons who personally know of Dr, Ted Marrs background

General Ried Doster

Retired Air Force General--Get his present localtion from Secretary of the Air Force, or through Randolph Field.

Albert C. Buckpersons

Present address uncertain, wrote pamphlet called "Bay of Pigs".

Col. Bill Teas

Works at Air National Guard headquarters at the Burmingham municipal airport, Alabama. Civilian tecnician.

James Harris

Probably still lives in Burmingham, Alabama. Pilot. Thought tobe working with Hays International

Charles Weldon

Capain in Bay of Pigs invasion force. Probably lives in Buringham.

General John Warner

Retar Air Force General, now General Counsel , CIA.

Ulysses "Uly" Littleton

Pilot, may be in Burmingham, ALabama.

Dr Marrs himself is a pediatrician from Montgomery, AL.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DECEMBER 18, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

DR. THEODORE C. MARRS
Biographical Data

Dr. Theodore C. Marrs has been Special Assistant to the President since September 6, 1974. From 1970 to May 1974, he served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs.

From 1964 to 1970 he was Deputy for Reserve Affairs and Education in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. From 1963 to 1964 Dr. Marrs was Special Assistant to the Surgeon General of the Air Force. In 1953 he became a medical officer in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and for ten years was continuously involved in military medical administration. From 1945 to 1951 he was engaged in the general practice of medicine in Montgomery, Alabama, where he helped to organize and manage the Jackson Hospital and Clinic, the Pineview Manor for the Handicapped, and the Elks Clinic for the Handicapped; and served as national consultant to the United Cerebral Palsy Association.

He was born on August 29, 1918, in Rutherfordton, North Carolina. Dr. Marrs attended the University of Tennessee, completing the pre-med course in 1937 and receiving his M.D. degree in 1940. He completed his residency at Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan, in 1944. In 1967 Dr. Marrs attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and the National War College. In 1968 he was promoted to Brigadier General in the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

Dr. Marrs is married and has five sons and two daughters.

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THE CIA STAFF RECORDS SECTION AT351-7841
HAS INFORMED AT LEAST ONE CALLER THAT
TED C. MARRS DID HAVE A FILE WHICH CONFIRMED
THAT HE WORKED FOR THE CIA IN 1961. SHE
ALSO TOLD THE CALLER THAT MOST OF MARRS
FILES SEEMS TO BE MISPLACED OR MISSING.